REMARKS

Claims 4 to 6 are in the application unchanged.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Azima et al., are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed is clearly not disclosed or suggested by the reference relied on by the Examiner.

The present invention is directed to an electrodynamic transducer having small dimensions whose structural components can be arranged relative to each other in a simple and inexpensive manner with a sufficiently concentric arrangement. This concentric arrangement is of the utmost importance in a transducer. This object is met by producing articles of synthetic material by means of an inexpensive and precise injection molding process, wherein the surfaces are partially metalized and, thus, made electrically conductive.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is clearly distinguished over the reference because it is clear from the claims of the present application that those components whose surfaces are metalized are composed of an electrically insulating material. These insulating materials can then permit or not permit a metalization of their surface. By selecting the synthetic materials for the individual components, it is possible to arrive at an article which, when the surfaces are metalized, makes exactly those surface components electrically conductive which are desired to be electrically conductive.

Consequently, in the finished transducer, primarily the metalized surface is of importance.

Specifically, the present invention is not anticipated by the reference to Azima et al. for the following reasons:

The reference to Azima et al. shows in Fig. 3 a magnetic system which is composed of a magnet 15 and poles 14 (divided yoke). This magnet system is supported by a fastening part 92 which, in connection with the spacer member 127 and a head 93 permits the assembly of the transducer on a panel 2. Also fastened to the panel 2 is the coil 13 by means of a support.

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the position taken by the Examiner that the component 90 constitutes a housing. Rather, it is the outer end of a pole 14, which, as mentioned in column 5, lines 39 and 40 of the reference, surrounds a peripheral flange 90 arranged in order to surround the coil 13.

In principle, it is clear that the reference to Azima et al. is directed to a loudspeaker which is not to be arranged within a housing. Rather, as seen in Fig. 1 and described in the corresponding description, the object is to provide a loudspeaker which has the shape of a panel which is oscillated as a whole. In this manner, the loudspeaker can be hung from a wall or can be optically camouflaged in a different manner. Fig. 3 shows the embodiment in which the transducer or vibration generator is located behind the sight area and only the head is visible on the panel. Consequently, in this reference, the problems on which the present invention is based and which are solved by the invention are not involved in this reference, so that, without the knowledge of the invention, nobody would consider to find suggestions in this reference.

However, even if the reference is applied, the reference does not provide any suggestions for the present invention as claimed as far as the surfaces of the components 14 and 15 are concerned; especially the surfaces of the components 14 and 15 are not stated by the prior art to be metalized at the surfaces thereof.

Even if this feature is disputed there is still another feature which distinguishes the present invention over the reference because the reference does not have "...an annular housing component separate from the yoke part..."; so that in Azima et al., the two components 14 and 15 and the fastening part 92, which does not constitute a yoke, how to be separate from the housing part which clearly is not applicable to the structural components 14, 15, 92.

Applicant also disagrees with the Examiner's contention that the magnet 15 is arranged between outer surfaces, while the magnet 15 is clamped in a conventional manner between end faces of the metal plates 14 which together form a yoke.

Moreover, applicant also respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's position that the coil 13 is fastened on a diaphragm (not 16, as indicated by the Examiner because 16 is the adhesive joint). The panel 2 on which the transducer is seated should not be considered a diaphragm. Certainly, this interpretation constitutes a very unusual mechanical and acoustic evaluation.

With respect to the reference to Komatsu the statements made above apply essentially also to this reference. The difference between the reference and the present invention is in this situation that indeed there is a housing 102, 103, wherein, however, this housing does not contribute to the magnetic system and wherein yoke parts 111, 115 or 612 are arranged at the end plates, and not between outer surfaces of yoke parts 111, 115, or 612, 610. It is understood that, also in this case, a metal surface is available because especially these components consist throughout of metal, which is a material which cannot be metalized.

The claims have been written to distinguish over the art of record. Applicant submits that the references relied on in the Office Action also do not disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

Friedrich Kueffner

Friedrich Kueffner Reg. No. 29,482
317 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10017
(212) 986-3114

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FK:aw

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 10, 2006

By: Friedrich Kueffner
Friedrich Kueffner

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